Livingston Alumni News

A Publication of The Livingston Alumni Association

Winter/Spring 2008

Serving Over 22,000 Alumni

Welcome From The President

Marty Siederer LC '77

Dear Livingston Alumni,

Over the past two years, a Rutgers University Task Force on Alumni Relations has extensively studied the way that alumni relations on both the university and individual college levels have been structured and coordinated.

Currently, an umbrella organization – the Rutgers University Alumni Federation – coordinates membership recruitment and dues mailings and services, and programs such as affinity credit cards and life insurance programs, with a portion of the revenue after expenses distributed to the nearly 20 individual alumni associations such as Livingston, Douglass, Rutgers College and others. This revenue provides most of the funding for our association to organize programs and services for Livingston alumni and students, including Career Networking Night, the Livingston Pride Award, our participation in Homecoming and communications such as the newsletter you are now reading.

In late 2007, Rutgers University President Richard McCormick and the Rutgers University Board of Governors endorsed the recommendations of the Task Force on Alumni Relations. Details of the changes can be found at http://www.alumni.rutgers.edu/transform/ . In a nutshell, the changes include:

- The creation of a new organization called the Rutgers University Alumni Association, which replaces the Alumni

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Speed Networking Night A Major Success

"It's not WHAT you know....it's WHO you know!" That was the theme heard through Speed Networking Night, presented on November 27, 2007 by the Livingston Alumni Association's young alumni committee, the Rutgers Alumni Associaton's undergraduate committee and Rutgers Career Services. Over 100 alumni and 150 students representing different majors and industries participated in the event.

The evening started off with a round robin, where students were able to briefly meet with an alumnus for three minutes. A whistle would then sound and the alumnae would get up and move to a new set of students. The second session consisted of a chance for students to meet with alumni that related closest to their career goals. Representatives from Rutgers Career Services were on hand to provide resume critiques and job search tips.

The Rutgers Student Activities Committee will be holding a Speed Networking Night on February 20 at the Busch Student Center. The Livingston Alumni Association and Rutgers Alumni Association's Undergraduate Committee are supporting this program. If you are interested in participating, please email laaemail@alumni.rutgers.edu

Reunion Years

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See Page 6 For Reunion Info

President's Message Continued...

Federation
- Free alumni association memberships for all Rutgers alumni
- Discontinuing distribution of income from the life insurance and credit card programs to individual associations

What does this mean for the Livingston Alumni Association? While the LAA and other "legacy associations" associated with the individual schools can continue in existence, our key revenue streams from dues membership payments and the university's alumni programs are no longer available. In addition, since the University coordinates our email and print communications mailings with LAA members, we are not assured of being able to contact you on a consistent basis with information about programs of interest to Livingston College graduates.

If you participated in our 2007 programs – Homecoming, Reunion, Speed Networking Night, Theatre Night and more – you know that we are a vibrant association. There's more in store in 2008 – expanded Reunion and Livingston Legacy programs, Livingston Distinguished Alumni Awards, in addition to Homecoming, Speed Networking Night, Theatre Night and a Day At The Races – but we need your help to continue our services and programs of interest for Livingston alumni. Please take a minute and complete the survey on page 3 or visit www.livingstonalumni.org/survey.htm to fill out the survey online so that we can continue to serve you.

You may be asking:

Q. How will the LAA be able to pay for these programs when consistent funding is no longer available from the Rutgers University Alumni Association?

A. Some programs such as Reunion Weekend are underwritten through funding from the class fees we paid while students at Livingston. We have also been fortunate to have received generous donations over the past year from organizations and individuals that are interested in seeing Livingston-specific programs such as the Pride Award continue. You can make a tax-deductible donation to support the LAA and its programs at http://www.livingstonalumni.org/support.htm Through the work of Jeff Isaacs and the LAA's Budget & Finance Committee, investment of the income received by the LAA through the years has provided us with some "rainy day" resources.

Programs such as Speed Networking Night (more information on page 1) grew in size because of the interest in the Rutgers Alumni Association's Undergraduate Committee in partnering with our association. We will continue to explore partnership opportunities to provide the best possible return for our members and the students who benefit from our programs. Homecoming is a very valuable contact point for student and alumni members, and we will make every effort to maintain our current involvement. Programs such as the Livingston Legacy series or Livingston Distinguished Alumni dinner are very worthy ones and celebrate what's special about our alma mater. By charging a reasonable admission fee, we will be able to continue these important celebrations. We may be able to apply to the Rutgers University Alumni Federation for a grant to underwrite some programs but there's no guarantee that the requests will be approved.

We will need to reduce our mailing and printing expenses, and will explore ways to deliver this newsletter to you via email. In the survey on page 3, we are also asking for your thoughts on paying a small annual fee to the LAA to help underwrite our programs.

Bottom line: think of the LAA's current situation as being a family that has lost a major source of income and is looking for ways to maintain essential programs and services.

Q. I recently purchased a multi-year or life LAA membership. Now that membership is free, can I get a refund?

A. The Alumni Federation has asked their Alumni and Recruitment Engagement committee to come up with recommendations for alumni who have recently paid for multi-year or life memberships. The LAA is represented on this committee and will provide input to represent the members in this situation.

Q. Will the LAA have any involvement in the formation and launch of the RUAA?

A. President McCormick has appointed a committee to implement the recommendations of the Task Force on Alumni Relations, and the LAA has communicated with Dr. McCormick, members of the task force and the Alumni Relations staff its interest in building and implementing the new era in university alumni programs.

Q. Why is the LAA still giving out the Pride Award when Livingston College is no longer in existence?

A. While Livingston College is no longer in existence, a large number of students who were underclassmen in 2007 have indicated to the University that they would like their diplomas to state they are graduates of Livingston College in honor of the significance that Livingston's programs have had on their lives. At its August 2007 meeting, the LAA board voted to increase the amount of the Pride Award and members of the board have made donations to the LAA to add to the award funding.

What other questions do you have? Please email me at laaemail@alumni.rutgers.edu or join us at an upcoming board meeting to share your ideas or comments. With your comments and support, we can continue to keep the Livingston legacy alive while helping Rutgers University build onto its vital programs for all alumni.

Sincerely,

Marty Siederer, LC '77
President

Please complete and return the survey below to help us provide programs of interest to you.

You can also complete this form online at http://www.livingstonalumni.org/survey.htm

Your Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Year Graduated: _____ Major: _____

Club(s) you were active in: _____

Quad or Tower you lived in: _____

Would you be interested in attending and/or planning reunions that were for the Livingston community only, and based on the clubs or dorm that you were a member of? (examples: Quad reunions) Yes / No

Would you be interested in attending programs that celebrated Livingston's unique educational values and history? Yes / No

Would you be willing to make a small contribution towards program fees ($10-$20 per year) to help fund programming specific for Livingston College alumni? Yes / No

Would you be interested in serving on an LAA committee or board? Yes / No

Please return this form to:
Livingston Alumni Association
Marty Siederer, President
Winants Hall, 7 College Avenue
New Brunswick, NJ 08903

Livingston College

Student Center Addition Groundbreaking (Finally) Takes Place

The Livingston Campus was the scene of a significant milestone in its history on November 28, 2007, when students, administrators, and public officials conducted a groundbreaking ceremony for the start of a 19,000-square foot addition to the Livingston Student Center, an effort in the discussion and planning states for 15 years and engendering debate on the university's priorities for the campus in Piscataway Township.

Plans to improve the student center also include the renovation of nearly 40 percent of the current center, which was built in 1986. According to Jacqui Whitfield, external vice president of the Livingston Campus Council, "It is a personal and professional triumph to see the fruits of our labors over the past 15 years culminate in such an occasion," Whitfield said. "It is vital to remove the stigma that has been attached to the campus for too many years" from a lack of meeting and study space, few dining choices and overall dearth of student life at the center."

A new multipurpose room with modern sound and lighting systems, an expanded coffeehouse area, a convenience store, a collaborative learning center, and additional meeting and lounge space will be included in the expansion.

Photo Credit: Nick Romanenko

Pictured from left to right: Greg Blimling, Vice President for Student Affairs; Tim Grimm, Dean Of Students, College Avenue Campus; George Jones, Livingston Campus Dean; Brian C. Wahler, Piscataway Township Mayor; Jacqui Whitfield, External Vice President, Livingston Campus Council; Nicholas Martucci, President, Livingston Campus Council; Rutgers President Richard L. McCormick; and Peter Biber of The Biber Partnership.

Livingston Campus Plan

In his September 28, 2007 annual address to the University community, Rutgers President Richard McCormick proposed a long-term plan to develop Livingston Campus and bring all of Rutgers' professionally oriented programs to the Piscataway campus.

According to Dr. McCormick, the Livingston Campus will continue to be an academic setting but with a new vision: a place where business leaders of today and tomorrow would mingle with educators to advance their careers or enrich their lives.

"Throughout its history, Livingston has focused on leadership and social responsibility in a diverse society. Our vision is to expand that focus by making Livingston a center for professional education," McCormick said. "I want to bring together our schools of business, management and labor relations, education, and social work, which already share a commitment to professional education, continuing education, and executive education." According to McCormick and Anthony Calcado, the University's Vice President for Facilities and Capital Planning, the Livingston Campus has a wealth of potential to make it attractive to all types of students, particularly business-oriented and adult students:

- close proximity to the science and research facilities on Busch Campus
- ample parking
- easy access by highway
- convenient accessibility to rail service via the New Jersey Transit train station in Edison

The Rutgers Ecological Preserve is another area that can be used to expand educational opportunities on the Livingston Campus, said Calcado. "The ecological preserve is not used to its maximum educational and recreational potential. By defining well-maintained trails and developing educational programs, university administrators hope to bring a similar vibrancy planned for Livingston Campus to the preserve. Right now, it's difficult to get through, and there are limited trails," Calcado said. "It's got to be used a lot better for our educational purposes, and be an amenity to everything that we plan."

Mr. Calcado was scheduled to provide additional information about the plans for the Livingston Campus at the LAA's February 6 board meeting.

Awards Night For LAA

Dr. Michael T. Beachem, LC'73, GSE'78, '84, Jason Goldstein LC'02, RBS'05 and LAA were all honored at the Meritorious Service Award Dinner on Friday, October 19, 2007.

The LAA received the William P. Garrison Award for the Alumni Association with the greatest increase in annual membership. LAA President Marty Siederer (center) accepted the award from Rutgers University vice president of alumni relation Donna K. Thornton and senior director of alumni relations Brian Perillo.

The Rutgers University Alumni Federation created the Meritorious Service Award in 1974 to recognize alumni, faculty, and friends of Rutgers for their outstanding service to the university. Rutgers University president and the president of the Alumni Federation present the awards during the annual Alumni Leaders Conference.

In addition to the honors accorded Mike Beachem and Jason Goldstein at the dinner, the Livingston Alumni Association was presented with the William P. Garrison Award for the Alumni Association with the Greater Increase in Annual Membership.

Dr. Michael Beachem received the Meritorious Service Award from Rutgers University Alumni Federation president Dianne Clarke-Kudless (left) and Donna Thornton.

Attendees at the Meritorious Service Award dinner included (top row. left to right) Langston Campbell, Iris Martinez-Campbell, Rob Bertrand, Michael Beachem, Joe Capo, Jason Goldstein, Jeffrey Isaacs, Mike Rutkowski, Karen Kanu and Dean Paul Herman; (sitting, left to right) Marty Siederer, Martin Dickerson and Donald Neal.

Livingston College

90.3 The Core Celebrates A Special Milestone

On October 6, 2007, family, friends, and distinguished guests joined members of the LAA board and the staff of 90.3 The Core, RLC-WVPH-FM Radio for a banquet that celebrated going live with the Tower of Tomorrow.

Members of the Rutgers and Piscataway communities lent their words as the new tower went live, increasing the stations' signal strength by 85%. The dinner allowed the station to properly thank all those who helped along the way to make the "Tower of Tomorrow" a reality, from the community who helped support the project to the engineers and technicians who helped make the tower a physical reality, In addition, Soterios Johnson, host of NPR's Morning Edition show on WNYC radio, spoke of the importance of independent media and what a community radio station can do with its place on the radio dial.

The antenna tower capped off in 2007, increased 90.3 The Core's signal.

Theater Night

The LAA came together on October 20, 2007 for The Livingston Theatre Company's production of "The Full Monty." We had a strong turnout from members who brought their friends and family. If you haven't joined us for a theater night yet, now's the time!

SEUSSICAL THE MUSICAL

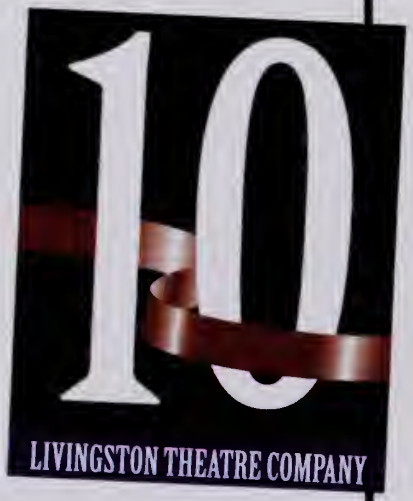
The Livingston Theatre Company is completing their tenth season this year with a large production of "Seussical the Musical" at Crossroads Theater in New Brunswick (appropriately located on "Livingston" Avenue). "Seussical" is a musical theater version of the famous stories by Dr. Seuss, inter-woven and set to music by the writers of *Ragtime*, *Once on this Island* and *Lucky Stiff*.

We will host our theater night on Friday, April 18, 2008. Details for the location will be posted on our website as they become available. We do know the fun will start at 6:30 pm with a special wine and cheese reception with fresh fruit, finger sandwiches, vegetable platters and assorted chips. Mingle with fellow alums prior to the show while members of the show's creative and production team drop in to share some insight on the musical. Then, we head over to the show for great seats in a special reserved VIP section. For more information or to reserve tickets email Jason Goldstein at Jason_Goldstein@alumni.rutgers.edu. Tickets do go quickly, so contact us soon.

Join the Party

As stated above, the Livingston Theatre Company, which will complete ten successful seasons of live student-run musical theater productions with Seussical, will host a gala celebration on May 2, 2008.

This lavish red carpet gala celebration is open to the Livingston alumni community who has supported the performing arts organization since its inception. For more details about the LTC 10th Anniversary event, email Jason Goldstein at Jason_Goldstein@alumni.rutgers.edu or visit www.rultc.org.



Reunion

Come Celebrate On The Banks With Reunion 2008

ReUnion 2·0·0·8

You won't want to miss Reunion 2008, coming up on the weekend of May 16-18, 2008! This year's reunion commemorates the graduating classes of all years ending in 3 and 8. A fun-filled weekend is in store, including:

- A new Family Day picnic on the Banks of the Old Raritan, where you and your family members can catch up with fellow graduates
- "Knights On Broadway," a special Cabaret Night presented by the Livingston Theatre Company
- Lunch with Livingston graduates at the Livingston Alumni Association's annual meeting
- Dinners and fun events for the classes ending in 3s and 8s
- The traditional march down College Avenue with fellow Livingston graduates
- Golf tournament
- Campus tours

Not a graduate of the 3's and 8's but want to catch up with some friends who were? Looking for ideas for your next reunion? You're invited too! Information about Reunion will be mailed to you shortly. Be sure to register early, and tell a friend. Reunion details will also be posted at www.livingstonalumni.org. If you like to volunteer or have any questions, contact the Reunion Committee at LAAreunions@alumni.rutgers.edu.

Do you have a tape of the 2004 Livingston College graduation ceremonies? An alumnus is interested in getting a copy. If you can help, please contact laaemail@alumni.rutgers.edu

Alumni Association Membership Benefits

Being a member of the Livingston Alumni Association has many advantages.

Besides the discounts to the Rutgers bookstore, Rutgers sporting events, access to the entire Rutgers University online alumni directory, discounts to local entertainment attractions, merchants and restaurants, free subscriptions to Rutgers Magazine and this newsletter, you are helping your alma mater. LAA membership helps Rutgers University to better serve our students, our alumni and the entire Rutgers community. Visit www.livingstonalumni.org for more information.

Election: 2008

Would you like to get more involved with the LAA? We are currently seeking members for our board and officers for the coming year starting July 1, 2008. If you are interested in serving on the board or as an officer, or would like to nominate an Association member, please contact laaemail@alumni.rutgers.edu

Executive Council

2007-2008

Executive Council Officers

President - Marty Siederer LC '73
1st Vice President - Jason Goldstein LC '02, RBS '05
2nd Vice President - Karen Kanu LC '99
Treasurer - Jeff Isaacs LC '84
Secretary - Harsh Dutia LC '03

Federation Rep. 2006-09 - William Bauer LC '86, GSNB '89
Federation Rep. 2007-10 - Iris Martinez-Campbell LC '75, SSW '81
Alternate Fed. Rep. - Jason Goldstein LC '02, RBS '05

Committees

Budget and Finance - Jeff Isaacs LC '84
Election and Nominations - Michael Beachem LC'73, GSE '78, '84
Membership - Yash Dalal LC '92
Reunion and Class - Carla Alexander LC '86, GSNB '95, SSW '02
Programming and Events - William Bauer LC '86, GSNB '89
Public Relations - Jason Goldstein LC '02, RBS '05
Young Alumni - Tiffany Ross LC '03

Executive Council Members

Lynn Astorga LC '99
Rob Bertrand LC '01
Joseph Capo LC '76
Martin Dickerson, LC '83
Walter O'Brien LC '05
Robert Uhrik LC '78
Philip Wang LC '03
Kaz Wright LC '92

Staff Liason - Michael Rutkowski UC, SCILS '96

About This Newsletter

The LAA Newsletter is published twice a year by the Public Relations Comittee chaired by the LAA's 1st Vice President. This newsletter is mailed to LAA members, individuals who make financial contributions to the College, and members of reunion classes.

Livingston Alumni Association
7 College Avenue
New Brunswick, NJ 08903

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Mark Your Calendar

March 19 - Rutgers Business Card Exchange

April 11 - Young Alumni trip to Boston

April 7 – LAA Board Meeting

April 18 - Theater Night at "Seussical the Musical"

May 2 - LTC 10th Anniversary Gala

May 10 - Rutgers Hall of Distinguished Alumni

May 16-18 - Reunion Weekend

May 17 - LAA Annual Meeting

May 18 - LAA Family Day Event

FALL 2008 - Livingston College Distinguished Alumni Awards

Livingston College

The Electronic University

Alumni News · Alumni Travel · Awards · Keeping In Touch
Joining the Alumni Online Directory · Links to Career Services

Livingston Alumni Association Website
http://www.livingstonalumni.org

Rutgers University Online Directory
https://www.alumniconnections.com/olc/pub/RTG

Career Services
http://careerservices.rutgers.edu/alumniinfo.html

Rutgers Alumni Relations
http://www.alumni.rutgers.edu/

Rutgers University
http://www.rutgers.edu/

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